Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04 /077 W

-----054419 311148Z /13 R 310404Z MAR 78 FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0283
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: CH JA SUBJ: JAPANESE EMBOFF'S COMMENT ON PFT

- 1. JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE TOLD USLO THAT THE PREVIOUSLY PLANNED SONODA VISIT TO PEKING HAS SLIPPED, "POSSIBLY SEVERAL WEEKS."
- 2. JAPANESE CONSULATE OFFICER HAD TOLD VISITING USLO OFFICER IN HONG KONG MARCH 25 THAT SONODA WAS PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN PEKING APRIL 10 TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY (PFT). ON MARCH 30 A JAPANESE EMBOFF HERE CONFIRMED THAT THEY HAD PLANNED FOR A SONODA ARRIVAL ON APRIL 10 BUT THE DATE OF ARRIVAL HAD NOW BEEN PUT OFF. THE EMBASSY WAS NOW UNSURE IF SONODA WOULD MAKE THE VISIT BEFORE FUKUDA'S CONFIDENTIAL

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APRIL 30 DEPARTURE FOR THE UNITED STATES.

3. JAPANESE EMBOFF'S SAID THAT THE SONODA VISIT HAS SLIPPED BECAUSE FUKUDA IS STILL CONSULTING WITH PARTY ELDERS ON THE PFT. EMBOFF SAID FUKUDA WAS PAINFULLY AWARE OF FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA'S FAILURE TO BRIEF LDP OFFICIALS ON THE SINO-JAPANESE AIR AGREEMENT

BEFORE SIGNING -- A MOVE THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE FALL OF THE TANAKA GOVERNMENT. THE CONSULTATION ON THE PFT MUST CONTINUE, "POSSIBLY FOR SEVERAL MORE WEEKS," BEFORE SONODA CAN COME TO PEKING. EMBOFF'S INDICATED THAT THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS NOT YET APPROACHED THE CHINESE ABOUT CONFIRMING THE VISIT BUT THE EMBASSY IS ACTIVELY PLANNING LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS. POLITICAL COUNSELOR QUIZZED USLO OFFICER CLOSELY ON SUPPORT GIVEN BY MFA PROTOCOL TO SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT.

- 4. EMBOFF'S REITERATED THAT THE JAPANESE SIDE IS FULLY PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE IN THE TEXT OF THE TREATY AND THAT THERE IS A "DE FACTO" AGREEMENT WITH THE CHINESE ABOUT THE TREATY. THE REMAINING STUMBLING BLOCK, HOWEVER, IS THE JAPANESE INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING A CLAUSE IN THE TEXT THAT THE TREATY IS NOT AIMED AT ANY THIRD COUNTRY. THE CHINESE ARE STILL RESISTING THIS PROPOSAL AND HAVE NOT INDICATED ANY FLEXIBILITY, THEY ADDED.
- 5. EMBOFF'S INDICATED THAT THE TREATY "CANNOT" BE SIGNED IN PEKING AND A SENIOR PRC LEADER (WHOM THE GOJ WOULD PREFER TO BE VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING) MUST COME TO TOKYO FOR THE SIGNING OF THE PFT BECAUSE OF JAPANESE SENSITIVITIES. THE EMBASSY WAS HEARTENED BY TENG'S STATEMENT TO A VISITING JAPANESE SOCIALIST CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTY DELEGATION MARCH 26 THAT HE WAS WILLING TO GO TO TOKYO. CONTRARY TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, HOWEVER, TENG APPARENTLY DID NOT STATE IF THE VISIT WOULD BE CONNECTED WITH A PFT SIGNING, THE EMBOFF'S STATED. WOODCOCK

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